

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims below by deleting items with a strikeout (i.e. ~~patent~~) or brackets / double brackets(i.e., [patent] or [[patent]]) and adding items with an underline (i.e. patent).

1. (Original) A shut-off valve guard comprising:

a front portion having a recessed aperture exposing a valve lever for manipulative access without having to remove or displace said guard; and

a rear portion coupling with said front portion and forming a unitary body about said water supply line and circumscribing said shut-off valve;

wherein said front portion and said rear portion each have a substantially hemispherical interior indentation traversing each longitudinal axis of said front portion and said rear portion, said indentation accommodating said water supply line.
2. (Original) The guard of Claim 1, wherein said front portion coupling with said rear portion via a plurality of attachment means.
3. (Original) The guard of Claim 2, wherein said plurality of attachment means comprises threaded fasteners and corresponding threaded cavities.
4. Canceled.

5. (Original) The guard of Claim 1, wherein said front portion and said aperture are dimensioned so a thickness of said valve lever to partially projects from said aperture, thereby inhibiting entanglement of said water supply line and said valve lever.
6. (Original) The guard of Claim 1, wherein said unitary body form a prolate shape without significant edges for entangling said water supply line.
7. (Original) The guard of Claim 1, wherein said guard is fabricated from plastic.
8. (Original) The guard of Claim 1 further comprising:
 - a first gasket circumscribing an upper internal circumference of said front portion and said rear portion; and
 - a second gasket circumscribing a lower internal circumference of said front portion and said rear portion;said first gasket and said second gasket preventing said guard from excessive movement along said water supply line during operation.